### 471 LIMITED DIVIDEND (LD) PAYMENT POLICY

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### **Purpose of LD Policy**

This policy provides guidance regarding an owner's LD request for a payment from surplus cash available for distribution remaining at the end of each fiscal year. LD distributions are allowed to provide Limited Dividend Housing Associations (LDHAs) with a return on their equity investment in an Authority-financed development. The regulatory agreement sets forth the maximum percentage of return on equity that an owner may draw and defines the equity calculation for each development. The percentage and definition of equity may vary significantly, depending on a number of factors. Therefore, each owner should refer to a development's regulatory agreement for the exact LD percentage and calculation.

### Requests for LD Approval

The owner must submit a request and receive approval from the Authority for an LD payment before any LD distribution can occur. The request must be submitted to the assigned Asset Manager on the Limited Dividend Payment Approval Request form (MSHDA Mgmt. 471A), which includes a certification of the financial and physical status of the development and recognition that all outstanding payments due per the owner's annual certified audit have been submitted to the Authority.

**No** LD payments may be distributed from the proceeds of any mortgage loan, 1602 loan, TCAP loan, HOME loan, or other borrowed funds. The owner must satisfy the following requirements in order to receive approval for an LD distribution:

- Final close the mortgage loan (converting the construction/rehab loan to a permanent loan), if applicable;
- Submit and receive approval of the annual certified audit for the past five years of operations (or all years of active operations, if fewer than five);
- Satisfy all outstanding annual certified audit findings, as well as any non-compliance and Management Letters issued during the past five years of operations (or all years of active operations, if fewer than five);
- Submit all payments of surplus cash due to the Authority, as determined by the approved annual certified audit;
- Satisfy all financial (e.g., funding of escrows and reserves, timely submission of budgets and audits) and physical obligations to the Authority and Federal Government (e.g., under all regulations, guidebooks and written agreements binding the owner or the development, such as loan documents, regulatory or use agreement(s), management agreement, subsidy contracts, etc.);
- Resolve any pending or threatened claims against the Mortgagor that could have a material, negative effect on the financial condition of the development as reported in the most recent Monthly Income and Expense (MIE) report submitted to the Authority;
- Verify the development's remaining cash on hand, after the LD distribution, is sufficient to meet its current financial obligations; **Sufficient cash exists** if Liquidity (as defined in the MIE Guide Policy) plus Development Cost Escrow (DCE) Interest minus the LD distribution requested equals one month's Gross Rent Potential (GRP) or greater;
- Request a distribution amount that does not exceed the amount permitted by the development's regulatory agreement, as calculated on the Schedule II of the latest approved annual certified audit: and
- Provide written certification that the owner has complied with all applicable requirements of the Authority's Asset Management Division (this certification is part of the LD Payment Approval Request form).

#### LD Disbursements

Upon receiving approval of the LD distribution from MSHDA, the owner has until December 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year to draw the approved LD amount. If the approved LD amount is not paid by December 31st of the current year, then the owner may not draw the LD in any subsequent year until a new Limited Dividend Payment Request form (MSHDA Mgmt. 471A) has been submitted and the owner has satisfied all requirements for approval set forth above. Any approved but unpaid LD must be recorded properly on the **Audit Input** tab as "Undisbursed LD Payments Approved in Prior Years."

## **Schedules and Example**

Understanding the LD calculation requires a brief explanation of the schedules used to calculate the LD amounts. The various schedule I forms calculate the payment obligations due to the Authority and the surplus funds available for distribution for each development.

The schedule II is a cumulative summary by year of the amount of surplus funds available for distribution, Potential LD, LD paid and the net LD Carry Forward for the year. The amount of Surplus Funds Available for Distribution calculated on the schedule I from the audit year carries over to the schedule II.

Example of a completed schedule II	Exampl	e of a	completed	schedule	II:
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LAC	imple of a completed	schedule II.	SCHEE	OULE II			
		FUNDS A		FOR DISTRIB	UTION		
				r 31, 2012	onon		
	0.44750 147514 554754						
1.	OWNER INITIAL EQUITY	ATION		\$	500,000		
1a.	SECTION 8/236 PRESERV	AHON		\$	-0-		
2.	MAXIMUM L.D. PAYMENT:			\$	60,000		
3.	CUMULATIVE %	10%		\$	50,000		
4.	NON-CUMULATIVE %	2%		\$	10,000		
	CUT-OFF DATE:	January 1, 2008					
5.	SALE/PRESERVATION TRA	ANSACTION			-		
	CLOSING DATE:						
33	L	II.		III.		IV.	V.
YEAR OF		r	-	•		~	•
		Surplus Funds Available		575			
OPERATION		For Distributi	For Distribution		POTENTIAL L.D.		CARRY FORWARD
2008		4,000		54,000		0	54,000
2009		7,000		57,000		4,000	107,000
2010		60	12,000	60,000		6,000	161,000
2011			84,000	60,000		12,000	209,000
g.	2012	(2)	8,000		58,000	75,000	192,000

If any of the owner's LD is characterized as non-cumulative, the amount of Surplus Funds Available for Distribution can affect the Potential LD amount. The Potential LD for each year is limited to the Cumulative amount of LD plus the lesser of (i) the Surplus Funds Available for Distribution or (ii) the Non-Cumulative amount. E.g. In 2009, there is \$7,000 of Surplus Cash Available for Distribution, so the potential LD for 2009 is limited to \$57,000 (\$50,000 Cumulative LD + \$7,000 of Surplus Funds Available for Distribution. The amount of LD that can be paid is limited to the amount of "Surplus Funds Available for Distribution" in any year. LD can only be distributed to the owner after:

- 1. The annual certified audit has been submitted and approved, and,
- 2. The LD request has been submitted and approved by the Authority.

### **Definitions**

<u>Surplus Funds Available for Distribution</u> – The amount of surplus cash on hand and in all eligible accounts after setting aside one month's gross rent potential and after all required development obligations have been met. This amount is calculated on one of the various Schedule I forms in the Audit Input template workbook.

<u>Equity</u> – Generally, equity equals (1) the total development cost, established by the Mortgagor's cost certification as approved by the Authority, minus (2) all indebtedness, and minus (3) local grants or other federal or state project investment, including but not limited to, HOME funds, CDBG, Federal Home Loan Bank Affordable Housing Program grants, Rental Rehabilitation loans, TCAP funds, or other sources. Refer to the regulatory agreement for each development's specific equity calculation.

<u>Cumulative LD</u> – The percentage or dollar amount of the LD payment that is designated as cumulative in the regulatory agreement. Any portion of the Cumulative LD that remains unpaid in the year following the year in which it accrues may be carried forward each year, even if there are no Surplus Funds Available for Distribution in the current year.

Non-Cumulative LD – The percentage or dollar amount of the LD payment that is designated as non-cumulative in the regulatory agreement. Non-Cumulative LD is payable only to the extent of Surplus Funds Available for Distribution for the year in which it accrues. Any portion of the non-Cumulative LD that exceeds the amount of Surplus Funds Available for Distribution for that year will not accumulate and cannot be carried forward.

<u>Maximum LD</u> – The sum of the Cumulative and non-Cumulative LD amounts for the current year.

<u>Potential LD</u> – The sum of the Cumulative LD amount for the current year plus the lesser of (i) the Non-Cumulative LD amount for the year or (ii) the Surplus Funds Available for Distribution. This calculation of Potential LD includes the portion of Non-Cumulative LD that is payable or may accumulate and be carried forward.

<u>LD Paid</u> – The amount of any payments made to the owner or reductions made on behalf of the owner to partnership liabilities and/or expenses from development operations during the audit year. Note: In a few cases HOME loan payments may come out of the LD approved amount and should be included as part of the LD paid amount.

<u>LD Carry Forward</u> – All Cumulative and non-Cumulative LD carry forward from previous years, plus the Potential LD for the current year, minus any LD paid with respect to the current year.

### **Forms**

471A – Limited Dividend Payment Approval Request

# **MSDHA Use Only Attachments**

471B – MSHDA LD Processes

471C – LD Payment Authorization Worksheet

471D – AM LD Approval Letter

471E – AM LD Denial Letter